

EDITORIAL

About This Issue

We are pleased with the *Bulletin's* growing acceptance and use by progressive forces around the world. We will continue to expand the depth and scope of our coverage, and thank our friends and subscribers for their support.

This issue contains a number of significant articles. We publish, for the first time in English, the complete text of a secret U.S. Army Military Intelligence cable sent from Rome to Washington, which resulted in its author's immediate expulsion from Italy in February, when it was first exposed there. The document uncovers MI machinations to infiltrate and control the Italian secret services, even as high as Admirals and Generals, and verifies the substance of Supplement B to Army Field Manual 30-31 published in our last issue, despite the Pentagon's vacuous claim that it was a forgery. We also publish a detailed analysis of the CIA Station in Spain, disclosing a very large, active operation engaged in undercover work in that country during this critical period in its history.

And—a first for the *Bulletin*—we are including a special thematic supplement relating to Africa. This section includes a penetrating interview with a black university professor whom the CIA tried, unsuccessfully, to recruit; and an in-depth examination of dishonest academics and foundations used as cover by intelligence networks to track liberation movements. We also present book reviews about CIA operations in Angola, and have devoted the entire Naming Names section to Africa, exposing more than a dozen Chiefs of Station as well as other high-ranking case and telecommunications officers. We will in the future devote other issues to special themes.

Some Criticisms

Because we are dedicated to the defeat of all the CIA stands for, we applaud every effort in this field. We believe that the more accurate exposures of intelligence operations and personnel which appear, the better. However, we regret errors and inaccuracies by anyone engaged in this work because they undermine the credibility of everyone challenging the intelligence agencies. Our cardinal rule has been to err on the side of caution. With the many hundreds of names which have appeared in the original *CounterSpy*, this *Bulletin*, and *Dirty Work: The CIA in Western Europe*, our accuracy in naming CIA officers has never been seriously challenged. (More than 200 names were

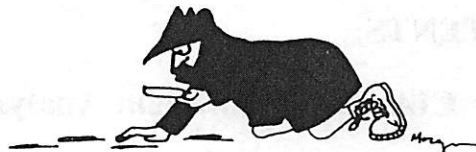
deleted from the Appendix to *Dirty Work* because we were not *positive* they were CIA officers.)

Of course, CIA officers are not the only villains. Many outrages are committed by other government officials, including the police and the military, by multinational corporations, and by petty tyrants around the world. But they should be exposed for what they are, and accurately. A reactionary State Department official may be just as insidious as the CIA officer down the hall in the Embassy, but that does not make him or her a CIA employee. Two recent press releases by the present *CounterSpy* have caused us much concern. One is a list of alleged CIA officers in Mexico, published by at least one Mexican newspaper; the other a similar list on Iran, distributed at press conferences and published in a Northamerican magazine. In our judgment, no more than one name on each list might be a CIA employee, and even those are not definite. They may or may not collaborate with the CIA, but they are not *CIA officers*. We have discussed this with *CounterSpy*, and they intend to publish a clarification. In any case, we urge them to be more meticulous in their research and more precise in their language.

Philip Agee

Another aspect of the present confusion requires a response from us. As we noted in our first issue, three of us, including Philip Agee, were associated with the original *CounterSpy* through its last issue in November 1976. Since that time, none of us has been connected with it, and the persons at present with *CounterSpy* were not on the staff then.

A recent UPI dispatch, widely republished here and abroad, quoted a *CounterSpy* spokesman as stating that it and the *CovertAction Information Bulletin* "share a source in common, Philip Agee." Philip Agee is *not* working with *CounterSpy*, he is *not* a "source" for anyone associated with it, and his *only* institutional association is with this *Bulletin*. *CounterSpy* does not verify its suspicions with this *Bulletin*, nor we with it. We ask that our readers, our contacts, and our friends not confuse us.



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